

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

FLD
883

25X1

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT The Army and the Beria Case

DATE DISTR. 25 Feb 1954 25X1

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
 OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793
 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVE-
 LATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS
 PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The role played by Marshal Konev in the Beria case shows that Malenkov has relied on the army: first, to decapitate in Jun 1953 the formidable police-political apparatus set up by Beria; and second, to prevent any resultant internal disturbance. It should be noted that General of the Army Moskalenko, commander of the Moscow Region, was one of Konev's judge-assessors. Now, this general assumed his command at the very moment when Beria was arrested. That is to say, he is a man on whom Malenkov definitely can rely.
2. The choice of the new vice presidents indicates the Soviet eagerness to appeal, more and more, to the class of non-political technical men. Malenkov, in agreement with the Army, wants to de-politicize the regime and get rid of sectarians. Furthermore, reliance on the technical men will help persuade the population that the men in power are trying, primarily, to improve the standard of living of the laboring masses.

- end -

25X1

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

U.S. Officials Only

SECRET

DISTRIBUTION	STATE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI						
--------------	-------	------	------	-----	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--

This report is for the use within the USA of the intelligence components of the Departments or Agencies indicated above. It is not to be transmitted overseas without the concurrence of the originator and either through the Assistant Director of the Office of Collection and Dissemination, CIA.